

Ryerson Chinese Christian Fellowship

Constitution

&

Statement of Faith

Updated September 2007

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1.0 Name

- The name of the organization is Ryerson Chinese Christian Fellowship hereafter referred to as “CCF”.

2.0 Mission

- To reach out to students on campus and bear witness to the Lord Jesus Christ’s salvation, love and grace.
- To stimulate active interest in evangelistic work on campus.
- To deepen the spiritual lives of the members of the CCF and guide their spiritual walk.
- To prepare the Christian student for life after university as socially responsible individuals who remain in their faith with integrity.
- To develop a biblical perspective with respect to what we learn, how we live and how we stand.

3.0 Relationship to Outside Groups/Organizations

- CCF is in no way instituted by an organization nor affiliated to nor run by any churches.
- CCF is non-denominational, meaning that we belong to no single denomination.

3.1 CCF and the Ryerson Students’ Union (RSU)

- CCF is funded by the Ryerson Students’ Union (RSU) and is under the terms and conditions of the Student Groups Policies of Ryerson University.
- The RSU will not interfere in the activities or operations of CCF. It does however, have the power to investigate complaints made by any member of CCF concerning alleged violation of this constitution.

3.2 CCF and Ambassadors For Christ

- CCF is in co-operation with Ambassadors For Christ (AFC), in which AFC provides leadership, support, guidance and training as well. It also promotes and develops students in areas of evangelism, discipleship, leadership and world mission.
- AFC does not manage CCF but simply assists and co-ordinates the organization of CCF as well as upholding its vision.

4.0 Structure of CCF

- The structure of CCF shall consist of the executive committee, sub-committees and members.

4.1 Executive Committee

- The executive committee consists of 7 annually elected executive members who will be responsible for the organization of CCF.
- The executive committee consists of: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, two Bible Study Coordinators (preferably male and female) and Outreach Coordinator and Worship Coordinator.

4.2 Sub-Committees

- Sub-committees are formed as the need arise to carry out planning of CCF programs/activities (i.e. retreat planning, outreach events, fundraising, elections, etc.) and are disbanded upon completion of such program/activity.
- Sub-committees consist of as many members as required.
- These sub-committees will be overseen by the executive committee.

4.3 Members

- See section **5.0 Membership**

5.0 Membership

5.1 Qualification for membership

- Any Ryerson student (part-time and full-time) may become a CCF member regardless of faith, race, creed, gender or sexual orientation.
- Members who profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour can run in the annual executive committee election.

5.2 Membership Responsibilities

- Members are responsible for their own conduct at all times outside or within CCF context.
- It is their personal responsibility to adhere to RSU or Ryerson policies and laws set in place by the government.
- Members should understand the CCF Constitution/Statement of Faith and abide by the articles and by-laws contained therein.

5.3 Grounds for Revocation of Membership

- Failure to meet the responsibilities, as specified in Section 5.2 by a member is sufficient grounds for the revocations of his or her membership.
- Revocation of the membership shall be effective immediately upon a unanimous vote by the executive committee. This vote shall be carried out at the discretion of the executive committee.

6.0 Meetings

6.1 General Fellowship Meetings

- General fellowship meetings are to be held at least once a week.
- At least one in four meetings are to be a Bible study.

6.2 Executive Committee Meetings

- Executive committee meetings are held at least once a month or when necessary to decide on the program and general welfare of CCF.
- Attendance is mandatory at the executive committee meetings by all committee members. This may be waived in emergency situations that the Chair deems legitimate.
- Any emergency executive committee meetings will be called by the Chair.

7.0 Role of Executive Committee

- The executive committee members adhere to the CCF's Statement of Faith and Constitution. The executive committee's function is:
 - To state the limits of power of the executive.
 - In all their best efforts attend fellowship meetings every week.
 - Take it upon themselves to disciple and train new leaders.
 - Discuss and establish the purposes of the specific executive roles, what they can do, their responsibilities, the number of members selected, and what the channels of communication and reporting procedures will be.
 - State who will be the signing officers.
- The executive committee's term starts on Sept.1 and ends on Aug.31st of the following year.
- Executive committee members must have a consistent presence on campus throughout their entire term (i.e. should not be on exchange or on work-term)

7.1 Chair

- Guides CCF to accomplish its goals and purposes.
- Upholds God's vision for CCF and maintain a solid relationship with Him.
- Plans, coordinates and directs the general welfare/improvement of CCF.
- Has a humble heart to serve the rest of the Committee and fellowship.
- Oversees all executive meetings and provide an agenda for each meeting.
- Represents CCF in all external affairs (RSU, PFACS, Multi-Faith, Student Groups Meeting, other groups and fellowships, etc).
- Must have strong, consistent prayer life.
- Has a veto in the case of a tie an executive committee vote. This does not include the annual election for executive committee members.

7.2 Vice-Chair

- Assists in the responsibilities of the Chair and take up the Chair's responsibilities during his or her absence.
- Co-ordinates all small groups and maintain accountability with small group leaders.
- Keeps record of the budget and trust fund accounts of CCF.
- Prepares all cheque requisitions and deposit forms required by the RSU.
- Sets out the annual budget of CCF unless stated by the RSU.
- Responsible for keeping the executive members' conduct in check. Makes sure executive members are fulfilling their responsibilities. Also keeps their spiritual life in check.
- Mediates any concerns/issues general members may have with the executive committee and vice versa.

7.3 Secretary

- Takes minutes for all executive meetings and distributes to attendees.
- Responsible for maintaining all CCF records (i.e. minutes, agendas, mail, Bible Study handouts, etc.)
- Responsible for securing meeting rooms each week with the RSU.
- Compiles and updates CCF contact/emailing list.
- Promotes, collects and distributes all funds needed for the work of CCF.
- Coordinates communication within CCF (calendar of activities, weekly e-mails, notices, etc).
- Give assistance to Chair and/or Vice-Chair when needed.

7.4 Bible Study Coordinators

- Proficient with the 'Holy Bible'.
- Have a consistent devotional life, setting an example for the fellowship.
- Both coordinators must work together to develop Bible studies.
- Responsible for recruiting and training Bible study leaders for studies in small groups or weekly meetings.
- Oversee Bible studies for general meetings.
- Educate members in light of Biblical teaching on stewardship.
- Accountable for CCF Members' spiritual growth through the Holy Bible (Bible Studies, Prayers, Devotional, etc.)

7.5 Worship Coordinator

- Promotes worship throughout CCF in all forms (song, prayer, dance, etc)
- Organizes worship leaders for CCF weekly meetings and functions and sets out a rotation and practice schedule.
- Trains or oversees training for vocalists, instrumentalists and leaders.
- Ensures the song PowerPoint slides are ready prior to the weekly meeting.
- Sets up equipment(s) for meeting in advance (i.e. overheads, projector) and for the clean up after the meeting.
- Addresses any CCLI issues that may come about.

7.6 Outreach coordinator:

- Responsible for the integration of first-year students and new members into the CCF community.
- Plans CCF acts of service and contribution to society as a whole—in particular, the Ryerson community. These include community service programs.
- Acts as link to other student groups on campus. Oversees any event/function that is done in partnership with another group.
- Seeks to answer any questions members or non-members may have about Christianity.
- Dedicated to sharing the Christian faith with others on campus.
- Consistently prays for Christians and non-Christians.

8.0 Removal from Office

- Any members finding fault in an executive member may approach the Chair / Vice-chair in confidence. In the case that the member under question is the Chair, the Vice-chair may be approached.
- The Chair and Vice-chair shall determine the reasons for which an executive may be removed from office, and the method of impeachment.
- Note that this is a serious matter, and an executive should be imparted only for serious offenses

9.0 Nominations

- Members who profess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour may be nominated for an executive role.
- The position of Chair must be held by members who have been on the executive committee in any previous years.
- All other positions do not require previous Executive Committee experience.
- Members must be nominated and seconded by another member in order to run OR have the Nomination form completed fully and submitted by set due date (as prescribed by Executive Committee) before nomination is counted.
- Members will be given at least two (2) weeks to submit Nomination form

10.0 Elections

- The election will take place by secret ballot.
- All positions of the Executive Committee are elected by at least two thirds of the members present and voting at the election meetings. This also applies to positions that have only one candidate running.
- In the case that a position cannot be filled, a member may be appointed to the position by the Executive Committee upon a unanimous executive committee vote after consulting the member.
- An individual cannot vote for the position for which he or she is a candidate.
- Ballots are counted by two members who are not candidates for the current election.

11.0 Amendments

- This version of the amended Constitution was adopted by a unanimous vote of the Executive Committee of the 2007-2008 term.
- Amendments to the Constitution must be approved by ALL members of the Executive Committee.
- Under no circumstances can the Statement of Faith be changed

12.0 Adoption of the Constitution

- The constitution must be approved by all Executive Committee members as well as the RSU.
- For it to be in effect, it must be ratified by a majority of the members in attendance at a legally constituted general meeting.
- Any discrepancies, concerns or confusion regarding the Constitution shall be brought forward during the reading of the Constitution and be clarified immediately by the executive committee.

13.0 Statement of Faith

- We believe the Holy Bible is God's Word, fully and uniquely inspired, and that it is absolutely trustworthy and has supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.
- We believe in the ONE true and living God who is the Creator and Sustainer of all things, existing in the Holy Trinity of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, conceived of the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary. He fulfilled the requirements of the scriptures by sinless life, and made atonement for all sin through His shed blood. He was raised bodily from the dead, ascended into Heaven, and will return personally according to His promise.
- We believe that resurrection from guilt, penalty, and power of sin is possible only through the sacrificial death (as our Representative and Substitute) of Jesus Christ, who is the Incarnate Son of God
- We believe in the Holy Spirit, who is of one substance, equal in honour, and coexistent with the Father and the Son. He affects God's work of salvation among men, and is present and active in the Church in accord with God's Word
- We believe that penitent sinners are regenerated solely by God's grace and justified through faith in Jesus Christ
- We believe that all men have fallen and are sinners in need of God's salvation
- We believe that those justified are also sanctified by the Holy Spirit. This is both instantaneous and progressive work whereby they are enabled to live a holy life
- We believe that the One Holy universal Church, which is one body of Christ which consist of those regenerated by the Spirit of God and of which Christ is the Head, express itself in worship, fellowship, and service
- We believe that in the last day, as the consummation of redemption, Christ will return personally and visibly to the earth to judge the living and the dead; that there will be a bodily resurrection of the dead, of the believers through the Holy Spirit unto the inheritance of eternal life, and of the unbelievers unto condemnation; and that a new Heaven and a new earth will be ushered in